



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

August 16, 2006

Ms. Sarah Brown, Treasurer
Ohio Republican Party State Central
& Executive Committee
211 S. Fifth Street
Columbus, OH 43215

**Response Due Date:
September 18, 2006**

Identification Number: C00162339

Reference: June Monthly Report (5/1/06 – 5/31/06)

Dear Ms. Brown:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. This notice requests information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. **An adequate response must be received at the Commission by the response date noted above.** An itemization of the information needed follows:

-Schedule A of your report (see attached) discloses one or more contributions which appear to exceed the limits set forth in the Act. 2 U.S.C. §441a(f) and 11 CFR §110.1(c) prohibit a State, district or local party committee (combined) from receiving any contribution from a person or non-multicandidate political committee in excess of \$10,000 per calendar year.

If any apparently excessive contribution in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you must amend your original report with the clarifying information.

If any contribution you received exceeds the limits, you may have to refund the excessive amount. The funds can be retained if within 60 days of receipt, (1) the excessive amount was properly reattributed to another person, such as a joint account holder, by obtaining signed written authorizations from each person making the contribution pursuant to 11 CFR 110.1(k)(3), and (2) the treasurer informs the person making the contribution that he or she may request the return of the excessive portion of the contribution if it is not intended to be a joint contribution. Any request from a donor for a refund must be honored.

26039165001

Alternatively, the funds can be retained if within 60 days of receipt you (1) transferred the excessive amount to an account not used to influence federal elections, and (2) provided written notice to the person making the contribution of the option of receiving a refund. Any request from a donor for a refund must be honored.

If the foregoing conditions for reattributions or transfers to a non-federal account were not met within 60 days of receipt, the excessive amount must be refunded.

Please inform the Commission of your corrective action immediately in writing and provide a photocopy of your check for any transfer-out or refund. In addition, any reattributions should be reported as memo entries on Schedule A of the report covering the period during which the authorization for the reattribution is received. Any transfers-out or refunds should be disclosed on Schedule B supporting Line 22 or 28 of the report during which the transaction was made.

Although the Commission may take further legal action regarding the acceptance of an excessive contribution(s), prompt action by your committee to seek reattribution, transfer-out or refund the excessive amount will be taken into consideration.

-Please amend your report by providing the address for each disbursement itemized on Schedule(s) B supporting Line(s) 21(b) and 30(b).

-Please clarify all expenditures made for "political dinner-CM," "victory center cell phones," "victory center lease," "victory center office supplies," "victory center office supplies-MS," "victory center office supplies-SD," "victory center supplies," "victory center supplies-MS," "victory director cell phone," "victory program cell phones," "victory staff blackberries," and "victory staff health insurance" on Schedule(s) B supporting Lines 21(b) and 30(b). If a portion or all of these expenditures were made on behalf of specifically identified federal candidates, this amount should be disclosed on Schedules B, E, or F supporting Lines 23, 24 or 25 and include the amount, name, address and office sought by each candidate. 11 CFR §§104.3(b) and 106.1

-Itemized disbursements must include a brief statement or description of why the disbursements were made. Please amend Schedule(s) B of your report to clarify the following description(s): "communications fee," "expense report-see memo entries," "road supplies-CM," and "volunteer

26039165002

incentives.” For further guidance regarding acceptable purposes of disbursements, please refer to 11 CFR §104.3(b)(3).

-Schedule B of your report discloses a reimbursement(s) to an individual(s) for apparent travel and subsistence advances in which the total amount reimbursed exceeds \$500. When the reimbursement amount to staff for travel and subsistence advances exceeds \$500, the payments by committee staff that make up the reimbursement may have to be itemized. For example, if the related payment(s) to any one vendor by the staff aggregates \$200 or more for the calendar year, the payment(s) must be itemized as a memo entry for that reimbursement. Each memo entry must include the complete name and address of the original vendor, as well as the date, amount and an adequate purpose. Please amend your report to include the missing information and clearly identify on the Schedule B, which reimbursement each memo entry relates to. If itemization is not necessary for a particular reimbursement to staff in excess of \$500, you must clarify this in an amendment to this report. 11 CFR §300.36(b) and Advisory Opinion 1996-20, footnote 3

-Schedule B supporting Lines 21(b) and 30(b) of your report discloses a total of \$14,051.82 in payments to credit card companies and apparent reimbursements to individuals. However, the sum of memo entries which appear to be related to these payments only totals \$11,401.02. Please be advised that when itemizing reimbursements to individuals for goods or services and payments to a credit card company, if the payment to the original vendor aggregates in excess of \$200 in a calendar year, a memo entry including the name and address of the original vendor, as well as the date, amount and purpose of the original purchase must be provided. Please amend your report to include the missing information and clearly identify on the Schedule B, which disbursement each memo entry relates to. 11 CFR 104.10 and 104.17, and Advisory Opinion 1992-1 and 1996-20, footnote 3

-Schedule B supporting Line 21(b) of your report discloses a payment(s) for “contributor database software” which appears to be disclosed on the wrong line of the Detailed Summary Page. Please be advised that Voter Identification, Generic Campaign and Get-out-the-vote activity conducted in connection with an election in which one or more candidates for Federal office appear on the ballot is considered to be Federal Election Activity. 11 CFR §100.24 Please amend your report to properly disclose this activity on Line 30(b) or provide clarification regarding this activity.

-Your report disclosed a category of financial activity that has been

reflected on the wrong line of the Detailed Summary Page. Transfers-in from affiliated committees should be properly disclosed on a separate Schedule B, supporting Line 12 of the Detailed Summary Page. Please refer to the instructions for each line when determining the proper categorization(s) for your next filing.

Please note, you will not receive an additional notice from the Commission on this matter. Adequate responses received on or before this date will be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. **Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered.** Failure to provide an adequate response by this date may result in an audit of the committee. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act may also result in an enforcement action against the committee. Any response submitted by your committee will be placed on the public record and will be considered by the Commission prior to taking enforcement action.

Electronic filers must file amendments (to include statements, designations and reports) in an electronic format and must submit an amended report in its entirety, rather than just those portions of the report that are being amended. If you should have any questions regarding this matter or wish to verify the adequacy of your response, please contact me on our toll-free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 5 to reach the Reports Analysis Division) or my local number (202) 694-1157.

Sincerely,



Laura E. Sinram
Campaign Finance Analyst
Reports Analysis Division

Excessive Contribution From an Individual

Contributor Name	Date	Amount	Report
Fitzpatrick, Scott J. Mr.	01/09/06	\$10,000.00	February Monthly
Fitzpatrick, Scott J. Mr.	05/11/06	\$10,000.00	June Monthly

26039165005

26039165006